

Relation (সম্বন্ধ)

Pre-Requisite:-

Ordered Pair:

Let A ,B be two non-empty sets and $a \in A$ and $b \in B$. Then (a,b) is called an ordered pair and a,b are called the first and second coordinate of the ordered pair (a,b)

Cartesian product"

The Cartesian product of the two sets A and B is denoted by $A \times B$ and it is the set of order pair of elements (a,b) where $a \in A$ and $b \in B$.

i.e. $A \times B = \{(a,b) | a \in A \text{ and } b \in B\}$

e.g. $A = \{1,2,3,4,5\}$

$B = \{5,6\}$

$A \times B = \{(1,5), (1,6), (2,5), (2,6), (3,5), (3,6), (4,5), (4,6), (5,5), (5,6)\}$

Definition of Relation:

Let A and B be non empty sets. A relation between A and B is denoted by R (or ρ) and is a subset of $A \times B$.

Thus $R \subseteq A \times B$

If $(a,b) \in R$, then obviously $(a,b) \in A \times B$ and we write aRb and read as “ a is related to b” .

Again if $(a,b) \notin R$ then we write $a \not R b$ or \overline{aRb} and read as “ a is not related to b”

Examples:

Let $A = \{1,2,4\}$, $B = \{4,6\}$ $\therefore A \times B = \{(1,4), (1,6), (2,4), (2,6), (4,4), (4,6)\}$

let $R = \{(1,4), (1,6), (2,4), (2,6), (4,6)\}$

Here , $R \subseteq A \times B$ and therefore R is a relation from A to B.

Domain & Range of a Relation: (ক্ষেত্র ও প্রসার)

○ Domain : (ক্ষেত্র)

Let R be a relation from A to B . The domain of relation R is the set of all those elements $a \in A$ such that $(a,b) \in R$ form some $b \in B$.

Domain of R is denoted by $\text{Dom}(R) = \{a \in A : (a,b) \in R \text{ for some } b \in B\}$

○ Range (প্রসার)

Let R be a relation from A to B . The Range of relation R is the set of all those elements $b \in B$ such that $(a,b) \in R$ form some $a \in A$.

Range of $R = \{b \in B : (a,b) \in R \text{ for some } a \in A\}$

○ Co-domain of a Relation (উপ ক্ষেত্র)

If R be a relation from A to B then B is called the co-domain of relation R .

Examples

Let $A = \{1,2,3,7\}$ and $B = \{3,6\}$

Let aRb means $a < b$.

Then $R = \{(1,3), (1,6), (2,3), (2,6), (3,6)\}$

Here ,

Domain $R = \{1,2,3\}$

Range of $R = \{3,6\}$,

and Co-domain of $R = B = \{3,6\}$

Inverse Relation

Let A, B be two sets and let R be a relation from a set A to a set B . Then the inverse of R , denoted by R^{-1} , is a relation from B to A and is defined by $R^{-1} = \{(b, a) : (a, b) \in R\}$

Example : Let $A = \{a, b, c\}$, $B = \{1, 2, 3\}$ and $R = \{(a, 1), (a, 3), (b, 3), (c, 3)\}$.

Then, (i) $R^{-1} = \{(1, a), (3, a), (3, b), (3, c)\}$

(ii) $\text{Dom}(R) = \{a, b, c\} = \text{Range}(R^{-1})$

(iii) $\text{Range}(R) = \{1, 3\} = \text{Dom}(R^{-1})$

Empty Relation/ Void Relation (শূন্য সম্বন্ধ)

A relation R from A to B is called an empty relation or a void relation from A to B if $R = \phi$

Example:

Let $A = \{2,4,6\}$, $B = \{7,11\}$ and let $R = \{(a,b) : a \in A, b \in B \text{ and } a-b \text{ is even}\}$

Relation On a Set

A relation R from a non empty set A into itself is called a relation on A .

i.e. if A is a non empty set , then a subset of $A \times A$ is called a relation on A .

Examples:

Let $A = \{1,2,3\}$ and Let for a $a, b \in A$, aRb means $a > b$.

Then $R = \{(3,1), (3,2), (2,1)\}$ is a relation on A .

Identity Relation (একক সম্বন্ধ)

A relation R on a set A is said to be the identity relation on A if

$$R = \{(a, b) : a \in A, b \in A \text{ and } a = b\}$$
 It is denoted by I_A .

Example:

$$\text{Let } A = \{2, 4, 6\} \text{ then } I_A = \{(2, 2), (4, 4), (6, 6)\}$$

❖ Types of Relation : (সম্বন্ধের প্রকারভেদ)

Empty Relation / Void Relation (শূন্য সম্বন্ধ)

A relation R on a set A is called an empty relation or a void relation from A to A if $R = \phi$

Example:

$$\text{Let } A = \{7, 1, 5\} \text{ and let } R = \{(a, b) : a \in A, b \in A \text{ and } a - b \text{ is odd}\}$$

Universal Relation (সার্বিক সম্বন্ধ)

A relation R on a set A is called an Universal Relation $R = A \times A$

Reflexive Relation (স্বসম সম্বন্ধ)

Let A be a set and R be the relation defined on it . R is said to be **Reflexive** if $a R a$ holds for every $a \in A$.

i.e. R is **Reflexive** if $\langle a, a \rangle \in R$ for all $a \in A$.

Example

- "greater than or equal to" is a reflexive relation but "greater than" is not.

Symmetric Relation (প্রতিসম সম্বন্ধ)

Let A be a set and R be the relation defined on it . R is said to be **Symmetric** if $a R b \Rightarrow b R a$
 $\forall (a, b) \in R$.

i.e. R is **Symmetric** if $\langle a, b \rangle \in R \Rightarrow \langle b, a \rangle \in R \quad \forall (a, b) \in R$.

Example

- "Is a blood relative of" is a symmetric relation, because x is a blood relative of y if and only if y is a blood relative of x .

Transitive Relation (সংক্রমণ সম্বন্ধ)

Let A be a set and R be the relation defined on it . R is said to be **Transitive** if
 aRb and $bRc \Rightarrow aRc \quad \forall a,b,c \in A$

Example

- If the straight line A is parallel to B and the straight line B is parallel to C then the straight line A is parallel to C

Antisymmetric

Let A be a set and R be the relation defined on it . R is said to be **antisymmetric** if
 aRb and $bRa \Rightarrow a = b \quad \forall a,b \in A$

Equivalence Relation (সমতুল্যতা সম্বন্ধ)

A relation R defined in a set A is said to be an equivalence relation , iff

- R is reflexive i.e. $aRa \quad \forall a \in A$
- R is symmetric i.e. $aRb \Rightarrow bRa$
- R is transitive i.e. aRb and $bRc \Rightarrow aRc$

Important Results on Relation

- If R and S are two equivalence relations on a set A , then $R \cap S$ is also on 'equivalence relation on A .
- The union of two equivalence relations on a set is not necessarily an equivalence relation on the set.
- If R is an equivalence relation on a set A , then R^{-1} is also an equivalence relation on A .
- If a set A has n elements, then number of reflexive relations from A to A is 2^{n^2-n}

&
Total number of relations = 2^{n^2}

- Let A and B be two non-empty finite sets consisting of m and n elements, respectively. Then, $A \times B$ consists of mn ordered pairs. So, total number of relations from A to B is 2^{nm} .

Example

- For a parallel straight line A is parallel to the st. line A . So the relation "parallel" is reflexive.
If the line A parallel to the line B then B is parallel to A i.e. the relation "parallel" is symmetric.
If the straight line A is parallel to B and the straight line B is parallel to C then the straight line A is parallel to C . i.e. "parallel" is transitive.
i.e. Here the relation "parallel" is an equivalence relation.

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- Let $A = \{1,2,3\}$. Then
 - i) $R_1 = \{(1,1), (2,2), (3,3), (1,3)\}$ is reflexive and transitive but not symmetric.
 - ii) $R_2 = \{(1,1), (3,3), (1,3), (3,1)\}$ is symmetric and transitive but not reflexive , since $(2,2) \notin R_2$
 - iii) $R_3 = \{(1,1), (2,2), (3,3), (1,2), (2,1), (2,3), (3,2)\}$ is reflexive and symmetric but not transitive, since $(1,2) \in R_3$ and $(2,3) \in R_3$ but $(1,3) \notin R_3$

➤ **Problem :** If R be a relation in the set of integers Z defined by

$R = \{(x, y) : x \in Z, y \in Z, (x - y) \text{ is divisible by } 6\}$ then P.T. R is an equivalence relation.

Solution:

Let $x \in Z$. Then $x - x = 0$ and 0 is divisible by 6 .

Therefore , $xRx \forall x \in Z$

Hence , R is reflexive.

Again , $xRy \Rightarrow (x - y)$ is divisible by 6

$\Rightarrow -(x - y)$ is divisible by 6

$\Rightarrow y - x$ is divisible by 6

$\Rightarrow yRx$

Hence R is symmetric.

xRy and $yRz \Rightarrow (x - y)$ is divisible by 6 and $(y - z)$ is divisible by 6

$\Rightarrow [(x - y) + (y - z)]$ is divisible by 6

$\Rightarrow (x - z)$ is divisible by 6

$\Rightarrow xRz$

$\therefore R$ is transitive.

Thus R is an equivalence relation.

➤ **Problem:** On the set Z of integers, define a binary relation ρ by $a\rho b$ iff $a + b$ be even. Show that ρ is an equivalence relation.

Solution :

Here the relation ρ in the set Z is defined as $\rho = \{(a, b) : a + b \text{ be even } \forall a, b \in Z\}$

As, $a + a = 2a$ be even $\forall a \in Z$, so $a\rho a$

Therefore, ρ is reflexive.

Let $a, b \in Z$ and $a\rho b$. Then $a + b$ is even and so $b + a$ is even. Hence $b\rho a$.

$\therefore a\rho b \Rightarrow b\rho a \quad \forall a, b \in Z \quad \therefore \rho$ is symmetric.

Next , let $a, b, c \in Z$ and $a\rho b$ and $b\rho c$.

Therefore, $a + b$ and $b + c$ are even.

$\Rightarrow a + 2b + c$ is even $\Rightarrow a + c$ is even $\Rightarrow a\rho c$

$\therefore a\rho b$ and $b\rho c \Rightarrow a\rho c \quad \forall a, b, c \in Z$

$\therefore \rho$ is transitive.

Therefore, ρ is an equivalence relation.

- **Problem :** A relation R on the set of integers Z is defined by $R = \{(a,b) : a,b \in Z \text{ and } |a-b| \leq 5\}$.
Is the relation reflexive , symmetric and transitive ?

Solution : Let $a \in Z$. Then $|a-a| = 0 < 5$. Therefore aRa holds $\forall a \in Z$. So R is reflexive.

Next, $a,b \in Z$ and aRb holds $\Rightarrow |a-b| \leq 5 \Rightarrow |b-a| \leq 5 \Rightarrow bRa$ holds $\forall a,b \in Z$

So, R is symmetric.

Again let $a,b,c \in Z$ and aRb and $bRc \Rightarrow |a-b| \leq 5$ and $|b-c| \leq 5$

Now , $|a-c| = |(a-b) + (b-c)| \leq |a-b| + |b-c| \leq 5 + 5 = 10$

Therefore , $|a-c| \leq 5$ does not hold always.

Hence R is not transitive.s

- **Problem :** If R and S are equivalence relation on A prove that ,
(i) R^{-1} is an equivalence relation.
(ii) $R \cap S$ is an equivalence relation.

Solution :

i) Since R is an equivalence relation therefore R is reflexive , symmetric and transitive.

Let $a,b,c \in A$ be arbitrary.

The relation R^{-1} is

- a) Reflexive : $(a,a) \in R^{-1}$, since aRa holds $\forall (a,a) \in R$
b) Symmetric : $(a,b) \in R^{-1}$, since $(a,b) \in R^{-1} \Rightarrow (b,a) \in R \Rightarrow (a,b) \in R$ as R is symmetric.
 $\Rightarrow (b,a) \in R^{-1}$
c) Transitive : $(a,b), (b,c) \in R^{-1} \Rightarrow (a,c) \in R^{-1}$
Since , $(a,b), (b,c) \in R^{-1} \Rightarrow (b,a), (c,b) \in R$
 $\Rightarrow (c,b), (b,a) \in R$
 $\Rightarrow (c,a) \in R$ as R is transitive.
 $\Rightarrow (a,c) \in R^{-1}$

Therefore R^{-1} is an equivalence relation.

ii) For all $a \in A, (a,a) \in R$ and $(a,a) \in S$, since R and S are equivalence relations. Hence
 $\forall a \in A, (a,a) \in R \cap S$. Hence $R \cap S$ is reflexive.

- $(a,b) \in R \cap S \Rightarrow (a,b) \in R$ and $(a,b) \in S$
 $\Rightarrow (b,a) \in R$ and $(b,a) \in S$
 $\Rightarrow (b,a) \in R \cap S$

Therefore , $R \cap S$ is symmetric.

- $(a,b) \in R \cap S, (b,c) \in R \cap S \Rightarrow (a,b) \in R, (b,c) \in R$ and $(a,b) \in S, (b,c) \in S$
 $\Rightarrow (a,c) \in R$ and $(a,c) \in S$
 $\Rightarrow (a,c) \in R \cap S$

$\therefore R \cap S$ is transitive.

Hence $R \cap S$ is an equivalence relation.

Problem : Determine the nature of the relation R on the set Z defined by aRb iff $a, b \in Z$ and $ab \geq 0$

Solution :

Let $a \in Z$. Then $a - a \geq 0$. So aRa holds $\forall a \in Z$

Therefore R is reflexive.

Next let $a, b \in Z$ and aRb .

Then $ab \geq 0 \Rightarrow ba \geq 0 \Rightarrow bRa$. So R is symmetric.

Again, let $a, b, c \geq 0$ and aRb, bRc

Then $ab \geq 0, bc \geq 0 \Rightarrow (a.b).(b.c) \geq 0 \Rightarrow ac.b^2 \geq 0 \Rightarrow ac \geq 0$ provided $b^2 \neq 0$ s

[e.g. if $a = 1, b = 0, c = -3$ then $a.b = 1.0 = 0 \geq 0$; $bc = 0.(-3) = 0 \geq 0$ but $ac = 1.(-3) = -3 < 0$]

Hence $ab \geq 0, bc \geq 0$ do not always imply $ac \geq 0$.

So, R is not transitive.

Some more relations

Partial Order

Let A be a set and R be the relation defined on it. R is said to be **Partial order** on A if it is reflexive, antisymmetric and transitive.

Linear Order

Let A be a set and R be the relation defined on it. R is said to be **Linear order** on A if it is

- i) reflexive, antisymmetric and transitive.
- ii) aRb or $bRa \quad \forall a, b \in A$

Equivalence class

For an equivalence relation R on a set A , the set of the elements of A that are related to an element, say a , of A is called the **equivalence class** of element a and it is denoted by $[a]$.

Example : For the equivalence relation of hours on a clock, equivalence classes are

$[1] = \{1, 13, 25, \dots\} = \{1 + 12n : n \in N\}$,

$[2] = \{2, 14, 26, \dots\} = \{2 + 12n : n \in N\}$,

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where N is the set of natural numbers. There are altogether twelve of them.